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ABSTRACT

This collection of 34 essays provides an overview of the debates and reforms under discussion in regard to undergraduate curriculum. Part 1 focuses on the purposes and objectives of undergraduate education, reviewing pivotal historical developments, changes in the curriculum due to social and historical forces, and traditional and innovative educational philosophies. Part 2 examines the central aims of undergraduate education, analyzing the issues of quality and coherence in general education and discussing the issues involved in learning various intellectual skills. Part 3 looks at specialized learning and the academic disciplines that are central features of almost all curricula. Part 4 details curricula innovations that span the academic disciplines, including teaching writing and other subjects across the curriculum, establishing interdisciplinary programs, internationalizing the curriculum, and developing learning communities. Part 5 examines the topics of administration, assessment, and institutional support. Part 6 synthesizes much of the earlier material and explores the nature of a curriculum for the 21st century. Each essay contains references. (MDM)

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